

4.4 Biological Resources

4.4.1 INTRODUCTION

The proposed 2020 CIP Update is an update to the current 2020 CIP. The proposed project has several elements, including incorporating roadway and intersection improvements beyond those identified in the current 2020 CIP. This evaluation of potential impacts to biological resources focuses on improvements categorized as widening projects, as these improvements would require an increase in the area of disturbance from that identified (and previously evaluated) in the current 2020 CIP. These areas of proposed widening are shown on **Figure 3-3** in Chapter 3, Project Description. The areas affected by the intersection and roadway widenings are described in **Tables 4.4-1** and 4.4-2. New lanes could be up to 14 feet wide, with construction disturbance up to 17 feet from the existing roadway. For intersection widenings, the new lanes would typically affect a distance less than 600 feet in length from the existing intersection.

TABLE 4.4-1

PROPOS	PROPOSED 2020 CIP UPDATE INTERSECTION WIDENING MODIFICATIONS				
Intersection Number	North-South Street Name	East-West Street Name	Category	Proposed CIP Update Modification	Affected Area
15	Orlando Ave/Marlin	Cirby Way	Widening	EB: Remove 1 lane WB: Add 1 lane	North and south side of Cirby east and west of Orlando, and west side of Orlando south of Cirby
19	Eureka Rd	Douglas Blvd	Widening	SB: Add 1 lane	West side of Eureka south of Douglas, and east side of Eureka north of Douglas
69	Fiddyment Rd	Pleasant Grove Blvd	Widening	NB: Add 1 through lane SB: Add 1 through lane	West side of Fiddyment
91	Roseville Pkwy	Olympus Dr	Widening	EB: Add 1 lane	South side of Olympus west of Roseville Pkwy

TABLE 4.4-1 (CONTINUED)

PROPOSED 2020 CIP UPDATE INTERSECTION WIDENING MODIFICATIONS

Intersection Number	North-South Street Name	East-West Street Name	Category	Proposed CIP Update Modification	Affected Area
100	Reserve Dr	Roseville Pkwy	Widening	EB: Add 1 through lane WB: Add 1 through lane	South and north sides of Roseville Pkwy located east and west of Reserve
104	West Mall	Roseville Pkwy	Widening	EB: Add 1 through lane WB: Add 1 through lane	South and north sides of Roseville Pkwy east and west of West Mall
105	Sierra College Blvd	Eureka Rd	Widening	WB: Add 1 left-turn lane	North side of Eureka east of Sierra College
165	Fiddyment Rd	Westlake	Widening	SB: Add 2 lanes	West side of Fiddyment from Baseline to Pleasant Grove
178	Washington Blvd	All America	Widening	NB: Add 1 lane EB: Add new right- turn/deceleration lane	East side of Washington south of All America
179	Cottonwood	Cirby Way	Widening	Realign driveways	South side of Cirby between two existing drive-ways

TABLE 4.4-2
PROPOSED 2020 CIP UPDATE ROADWAY WIDENING IMPROVEMENTS

Roadway Improvement	Current 2020 CIP Travel Lanes	Proposed 2020 CIP Update Travel Lanes	Category	Affected Area
Fiddyment Rd from Pleasant Grove Blvd to Baseline Rd	4	6	Widening	West side of Fiddyment between Pleasant Grove and Baseline
Roseville Pkwy from Galleria Blvd to West Mall	6	8	Widening	South side of Roseville Parkway
Roseville Pkwy from West Mall to Gibson Dr	6	7	Widening	North side of Roseville Pkwy

The environmental setting is based on a reconnaissance level survey conducted on September 27, 2006 by North Fork Associates biologists within the roadway and intersection improvement study areas. The results of the reconnaissance level survey are incorporated into this Draft EIR. In addition, a few of the intersection study areas were surveyed and evaluated under previous environmental documents. For these study areas, the setting and impacts are based on the West Roseville Specific Plan and Sphere of Influence Amendment Area EIR (approved 2002), NCRSP Parcel 35 - Galleria Mall Expansion Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (approved August 2006), Placer County's Environmental Questionnaire for Eureka Road and Sierra College Boulevard Widening (approved September 2006), and the Wetland Delineation for Baseline 430 (verified by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on February 17, 2004).

Impacts to biological resources are evaluated on a programmatic level in this Draft EIR. It is anticipated that subsequent environmental review may be required when site-specific plans are prepared and more specific roadway alignments and areas of disturbance are identified.

4.4.2 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The project area for biological resources encompasses the City of Roseville and a small section of Placer County, which is located on the eastern edge of the Sacramento Valley at the base of the Sierra Nevada foothills. Dominant habitats within the 13 areas proposed for roadway and intersection widenings include oak woodland, annual grassland, riparian, and seasonal wetlands and streams. Following is a general description of these habitats, as well as a definition of special-status species discussed in this Draft Subsequent EIR.

4.4.2.1 <u>Biological Communities</u>

Each intersection and roadway where widening is proposed is considered its own study area. This section discusses biological communities in the general study areas that may be present in at least

one of the intersection study areas. This section is then followed by a more site-specific discussion of each roadway and intersection study area.

Oak Woodland

Oak woodland habitat is characterized by a predominance of native oak trees in relatively high numbers with a substantial canopy cover. Within the intersection study areas, tree species are a mosaic of valley oak (*Quercus lobata*), blue oak (*Q. douglasii*), and interior live oak (*Q. wislizeni*). The understory typically consists of non-native grasses and forbs, such as ripgut grass (*Bromus diandrus*), wild oat (*Avena fatua*), and field hedge-parsley (*Torilis arvensis*). In a couple of the study areas, there was a shrub layer that consisted of scattered coffeeberry (*Rhamnus tomentella*) and coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*).

Oak woodlands are important for animal cover, and provide roosting and nesting habitat for birds and shelter for a variety of mammals. Woodlands also support insects and smaller mammals that may function as a source of food for larger animals in the area. Taller trees provide good nesting habitat for raptors such as great horned owl (Bubo virginianus), red-tailed hawk (Buteo jamaicensis), and red-shouldered hawk (Buteo lineatus). Common mammals that may occur in woodland habitats of the project area include western gray squirrel (Sciurus griseus), Virginia opossum (Didelphis virginiana), raccoon (Procyon lotor), and striped skunk (Mephitis mephitis). Birds that commonly occur within these habitats include California quail (Callipepla californica), oak titmouse (Parus inornatus), mourning dove (Zenaida macroura), northern flicker (Colaptes auratus), acorn woodpecker (Melanerpes formicivorous), spotted towhee (Pipilo erythrophthalmus), California towhee (Pipilo crissalis), and western bluebird (Sialia mexicana). Reptiles that may occur in or near woodland habitats of the project area include southern alligator lizard (Gerrhonotus multicarinatus) and western fence lizard (Sceloporus occidentalis).

Annual Grassland

Annual grassland within the study areas is composed primarily of introduced grasses and forbs that are adapted to California's Mediterranean climate. The most common and abundant species include ripgut grass, wild oat, hedgehog dogtail (*Cynosurus echinatus*), soft chess (*Bromus hordeaceus*), yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*), field hedge-parsley, Spanish clover (*Lotus purshianus*), and rose clover (*Trifolium hirtum*).

Grasslands provide important habitat features for a variety of wildlife species, both on a year-round and seasonal basis. Raptors such as red-tailed hawk, white-tailed kite (Elanus leucurus), barn owl (Tyto alba), great horned owl (Bubo virginianus), northern harrier (Circus cyaneus), American kestrel (Falco sparverius), and Swainson's hawk (Buteo swainson) commonly use open grassland areas for foraging. Western burrowing owl (Athene cunicularia hypugea) is known to occur in annual grassland habitat with friable substrates for burrowing. Other birds, such as western meadowlark (Sturnella neglecta), Brewer's blackbird (Euphagus cyanocephalus), and western kingbird (Tyrannus verticalis), use open grassland for nesting, as well as foraging. Reptiles that commonly occur in grassland habitats include western fence lizard, Western skink (Eumeces skiltonianus), and gopher snake (Pituophis melanoleucus). Mammals known to occur in or frequent grassland habitats, such as those in the project area, include coyote (Canis latrans), Botta's pocket gopher (Thomomyss bottae), California vole (Microtus californicus), western harvest mouse (Reithrodontomys megalotis), California ground squirrel (Spermophilus beecheyi), and black-tailed hare (Lepus californicus). Various species of bat are also known to forage in grassland habitats on a nocturnal basis.

Riparian

The riparian habitat within the study area is associated with streams. Vegetation typically includes Fremont cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*), Goodding's black willow (*Salix gooddingii*), red willow (*Salix laevigata*), and Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus discolor*).

Wildlife expected to occur in or to frequent riparian woodland areas of the project area likely consist of those species that commonly occupy surrounding woodland and grassland communities. Many species of birds are known to use riparian habitats on a seasonal basis for nesting, while some visit riparian areas for foraging purposes. Raptors, such as red-shouldered hawk, red-tailed hawk, greathorned owl, and Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter coopen*), are often known to nest within dense areas of riparian woodland. Many migrant songbirds, including warblers, vireos, and flycatchers, occur in riparian woodlands on a seasonal basis, primarily for nesting.

Wetlands and Creeks

Wetlands, such as seasonal wetlands and wetland swales, and intermittent streams, are located in a few of the intersection study areas. Curry Creek and tributaries to Cirby Creek, Linda Creek, and the South Branch of Pleasant Grove Creek occur within or directly adjacent to some of the intersection study areas. These intermittent streams typically flow during and some time after the winter rainy season and usually have a groundwater component or another water source that provides water in the absence of precipitation.

Seasonal wetlands are low-lying areas where runoff and precipitation collect. Wetland swales are water conveyance features that do not develop the bed-and-bank morphology typical of streams. Moreover, they usually have wetland soils and are vegetated with wetland species. Vegetation within the seasonal wetlands and onsite wetland swales within the study area are primarily composed of non-native wetland generalist plants. These include Italian ryegrass (*Lolium multiflorum*), annual beard grass (*Polypogon monspeliensis*), Mediterranean barley (*Hordeum marinum gussoneanum*) and hyssop loosestrife (*Lythrum hyssopifolium*). Vegetation along the banks of the streams may include cattail (*Typha latifolia*), dallis grass (*Paspalum dilatatum*), smartweed (*Persicaria* sp.), cocklebur (*Xanthium strumarium*), and riparian vegetation as described above.

Wetlands and drainages within the project area are expected to provide habitat for a variety of aquatic and semi-aquatic species. Amphibians that may occur in or frequent ephemeral drainages and wetlands containing standing water for short periods of time, or that retain moist substrates, include Pacific chorus frog (*Psuedacris regilla*) and western toad (*Bufo boreas*). Portions of streams that retain water for longer periods throughout the year may also support bullfrog (*Rana catesbiana*), mosquitofish (*Gambusia affinis*), and other warm water fish species. A variety of small birds and mammals likely forage within aquatic habitats of the study areas and periodically use the cover provided by adjacent vegetation. Seasonal wetlands, drainages, and freshwater marsh communities within the project area also provide important foraging habitat and cover for a variety of waterfowl and wading birds, including killdeer (*Charadrius vociferous*), Canada goose (*Branta Canadensis*), great egret (*Casmerodius albus*), and great blue heron (*Ardea herodias*). Other birds that may occur along drainages or wetlands of the project area include belted kingfisher (*Ceryle alcyon*) and black phoebe.

4.4.2.2 Special-Status Species

For the purposes of evaluation in this Draft EIR, special-status species are those that fall into one or more of the following categories:

- Listed as endangered or threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act (including candidates and species proposed for listing);
- Listed as endangered or threatened under the California Endangered Species Act (including candidates and species proposed for listing);
- Designated as rare, protected, or fully protected pursuant to California Fish and Game Code;
- Designated a Species of Concern by the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG);
- Defined as rare or endangered under Section 15380 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); or
- Occurring on List 1, 2, 3, or 4 maintained by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS).

Prior to the reconnaissance level survey, North Fork Associates biologists queried the California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB) for location records for special-status species known to occur in the City of Roseville and surrounding region. The biologists also reviewed the special-status animal species lists for the Roseville U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangle and Placer County created by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The CNPS Inventory was checked for special-status plants occurring in the area.

The special-status species with potential to occur within the intersection study areas are mentioned under each site-specific habitat below.

4.4.2.3 Site-Specific Habitat

Most of the proposed project improvements would occur within existing paved or landscaped areas, where there are no biological resources. However, a few intersection study areas support significant biological resources such as oak woodland, riparian, and wetland habitat. Site-specific descriptions of the 10 intersections and 3 roadway widenings proposed are described in the following paragraphs. These descriptions include site-specific habitat conditions and potential for special-status species.

Intersection 15: Orlando Avenue/Marlin Drive and Cirby Way

The proposed project would add one westbound left turn lane at the Orlando Avenue/Marlin Drive and Cirby Way intersection, which would affect the areas both north and south along Cirby Way (10 feet from existing edge of road) and the receiving lane west of Orlando Avenue (12 feet from existing edge of road). This intersection study area supports oak woodland, disturbed annual grassland, and urban landscape such as sidewalks and ornamental eucalyptus trees. Tributaries to Cirby Creek cross Cirby Way approximately 60 feet west of and approximately 330 feet east of the intersection; however, the proposed project is not anticipated to directly affect these features. The areas of impact are within upland habitats adjacent or over existing culverts for the tributaries.

The oak woodland habitat within this study area (west of the intersection and near the tributary to the east) supports predominantly blue and interior live oaks, with scattered valley oak trees. Oak woodland within and adjacent to this study area is not expected to support a wide diversity of wildlife based on the site's isolation from other larger areas of undisturbed woodland and the proximity to existing development and roadways. However, a few mammals and birds that are typically associated with urban areas are expected to occur within this study area. Birds observed within or near this study area include northern mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos), oak titmouse, mourning dove, acorn woodpecker, American robin (Turdus migratorius), and American crow (Corvus brachyrhynchos). Taller trees located southwest of the intersection, including mature oaks and cottonwoods, provide marginal-quality nesting habitat for raptors such as red-shouldered hawk. These taller trees, and potential habitat for nesting raptors, are located just outside and down-slope of this study area.

Due to the absence of suitable habitat, no special-status plant or wildlife species known from the project region are expected to occur within this intersection study area.

Intersection 19: Eureka Road and Douglas Boulevard

The proposed project includes adding one southbound lane to the Eureka Road/Douglas Boulevard intersection. This would affect the west wide of Eureka Road south of the intersection (12 feet from existing edge of road) and a small area on the east side of Eureka north of Douglas (17 feet from edge of road). Both of these areas support existing sidewalks and ornamental landscaping, such as rosemary (Rosmarinus officinalis), Chinese pistachio (Pistacia chinensis), and liquidambar (Liquidambar styraciflua), adjacent to commercial developments.

Due the presence of primarily landscaped vegetation and disturbed habitats, wildlife resources are expected to be limited within this intersection study area. Species likely to occur include those that commonly frequent urban and developed areas, such as western scrub jay, rock dove, mourning dove, Brewer's blackbird, house sparrow, and American crow.

No significant biological resources occur within this intersection study area. Due to the absence of suitable habitat, no special-status plant or wildlife species known from the project region would be expected to occur within this intersection study area.

Intersection 69: Fiddyment Road and Pleasant Grove Boulevard

Intersection 165: Fiddyment Road and Westlake

Roadway Segment: Fiddyment Road from Pleasant Grove Boulevard to Baseline Road

The proposed project includes adding one northbound and one southbound lane to the Fiddyment Road/Pleasant Grove Boulevard intersection, adding two southbound lanes to the Fiddyment Road/Westlake intersection, and widening the roadway segment of Fiddyment Road from Pleasant Grove Boulevard to Baseline Road from four lanes to six lanes. These improvements would affect approximately 87 feet from the existing edge of pavements on the west side of Fiddyment Road from Pleasant Grove Boulevard to Baseline Road.

These intersection and roadway study areas supports annual grassland, an intermittent stream (Curry Creek) with associated riparian vegetation, a seasonal wetland swale, and a seasonal wetland. Widening Fiddyment Road to four lanes was evaluated in the *West Roseville Specific Plan and SOI Amendment Area EIR*; however, the additional two-lane (total six lane) widening proposed in this 2020 CIP Update would affect additional habitat.

The portion of Curry Creek within these intersection study areas contained slow moving water at the time of the site reconnaissance conducted for this Draft EIR. Riparian vegetation adjacent to the creek supports Goodding's black willow, Fremont cottonwood, cattail, narrow-leaved willow (Salix exigua), and hairy willow-herb (Epilobium ciliatum). Portions of a seasonal wetland south of Curry Creek and a wetland swale north of Curry Creek are also located within this study area. These features are primarily comprised of non-native wetland generalist plants, such as ryegrass and annual beard grass.

Curry Creek and the seasonal wetlands located within these study areas are expected to support both aquatic and semi-aquatic species, and be frequented by mammals and birds that occur in adjacent grassland habitats. At the time of the site visit, several bullfrogs were observed in the channel of Curry Creek, at the downstream end of the culvert, just west of Fiddyment Road. Aquatic habitat of Curry Creek is also expected to support mosquitofish and possibly other warm water fish species. No anadromous fish or resident cold water fish species are expected to occur in Curry Creek (West Roseville Specific Plan and SOI Amendment Area EIR 2002). Various species either observed or expected to occur in association with freshwater marsh vegetation located along the drainage include Pacific tree frog, red-winged blackbird (Agelaius phoeniceus), mallard, great egret, black phoebe, and great blue heron.

Curry Creek provides suitable habitat for Sanford's arrowhead and marginal habitat for rose mallow. Sanford's arrowhead (*Sagittaria sanfordii*) is an herbaceous perennial member of the water-plantain family (Alismataceae) and is on the CNPS List 1B.2 (fairly endangered in California). Its preferred habitat is marshes associated with slow-moving water in sloughs and ditches; however, it is known to occur in concrete lined channels with only a few inches of soil. Rose mallow (*Hibiscus lasiocarpus*) is a clonal perennial member of the mallow family (Malvaceae) that can grow to thee to 6 feet tall. It has no state or federal status, but is on the CNPS' List 2, meaning that it is rare in California but more common elsewhere. This species is an obligate wetland plant that is found along rivers and sloughs in the Sacramento River Delta and Central Valley.

Seasonal wetlands and swales in these study areas provide potential habitat for three special-status animal species, including vernal pool fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta lynchi*), vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*), and western spadefoot toad (*Scaphiopus hammondii*). Vernal pool fairy shrimp, a federal threatened species, and vernal pool tadpole shrimp, a federal endangered species, most often occur in association with vernal pools or other seasonal wetlands located in annual grassland (USFWS, 2006a; USFWS, 2006b). Western spadefoot toad, a California species of special concern, occurs primarily in annual grassland habitats, open sandy floodplains, alluvial terraces, and occasionally in valley-foothill hardwood woodlands. Adults use vernal pools and other ephemeral sources of water for breeding and egg-laying (Zeiner et al., 1988). Potential breeding habitat for this species occurs in seasonal wetlands and swales of these study areas.

The annual grassland vegetation in these study areas includes ripgut grass, soft chess, wild oat, medusa-head grass (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*), rose clover, Fitch's spikeweed (*Centromadia fitchii*), and prickly lettuce (*Lactuca serriola*).

Annual grassland in these study areas is expected to provide important habitat for a variety of wildlife species, either on a seasonal or year-round basis. The following animals were observed either directly, or evidence of their occurrences was observed in annual grassland during the site visit: Canada goose, killdeer, great egret, Botta's pocket gopher, and California ground squirrel. In addition, a red-tailed hawk and an American kestrel were observed flying over grassland in the vicinity of these study areas during the site visit.

Annual grassland in these study areas also provides potential habitat for a variety of protected raptors, including Swainson's hawk, white-tailed kite, northern harrier, and western burrowing owl. Swainson's hawk, a state threatened species, is an uncommon breeding resident and migrant in the Central Valley. It nests primarily in riparian woodland and oak savannah habitats, and forages in nearby agricultural fields, grasslands, and open pasture. White-tailed kite, a California fully protected species, is a resident species that forages in undisturbed open grasslands, farmlands, meadows, and emergent wetlands. No suitable nesting habitat for either Swainson's hawk or white-tailed kite occurs within these study areas. Annual grassland in these study areas provides suitable foraging habitat for Northern harrier, a California species of concern. However, nesting of this species within these study areas is not expected to occur due to the proximity to the existing roadway. Burrowing owl, a California species of special concern, primarily occurs in open, dry grasslands, deserts, agricultural areas, and rangelands. Burrowing owls may occur on occasion within grassland habitats of these study areas.

Intersection 91: Roseville Parkway and Olympus Drive

The proposed project Roseville Parkway/Olympus Drive intersection improvements include adding one eastbound lane to Olympus Drive (approximately 14 feet from the existing roadway). This intersection study area is within an existing developed area, including sidewalk and ornamental landscape plants such as liquidambar and Chinese pistachio.

Because the only vegetation is landscaping plants, wildlife resources are expected to be limited within this intersection study area. Species likely to occur include those that commonly frequent urban and developed areas, such as western scrub jay, rock dove, mourning dove, Brewer's blackbird, house sparrow, and American crow. No significant biological resources occur within this intersection study area. No special-status plant or wildlife species known from the region are expected to occur in this intersection study area.

Intersection 100: Reserve Drive and Roseville Parkway
Intersection 104: West Mall and Roseville Parkway

Roadway Segments: Roseville Parkway from Galleria Boulevard to Gibson Drive

The proposed project includes widening the roadway segment of Roseville Parkway from Galleria Boulevard to West Mall from six to eight lanes and from West Mall to Gibson Drive from six to seven lanes, as well as widening the Reserve Drive/Roseville Parkway to add one eastbound lane and one westbound lane.

The areas of disturbance are approximately 17 feet from the edge of the existing pavement and located in areas of existing sidewalk, landscaping, and small areas ruderal grassland. A tributary to Pleasant Grove Creek flows west of Reserve Drive and south of Roseville Parkway, but this tributary is outside the area of roadway widening. The areas of impact are within upland habitats adjacent or over existing culverts for this tributary.

Due the presence of primarily landscaped vegetation and disturbed habitats, wildlife resources are expected to be limited within these intersection and roadway segment study areas. Species likely to occur include those that commonly frequent urban and developed areas, such as western scrub jay, rock dove, mourning dove, Brewer's blackbird, house sparrow, and American crow.

Although it is part of the proposed project, the widening on the north side of Roseville Parkway was identified and evaluated in the NCRSP (North Central Roseville Specific Plan) Parcel 35 - Galleria

Mall Expansion Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND). According to this MND, no biological resources are present within the areas proposed for expansion and roadway widening. This assessment concurred with the reconnaissance level survey conducted for the proposed 2020 CIP Update. No special-status plant or wildlife species known from the region are expected to occur in these intersection or roadway segment study areas.

Intersection 105: Sierra College Boulevard and Eureka Road

The project proposes to add one westbound lane along Eureka Road, which would affect an area approximately 17 feet from the edge of roadway on the north side of Eureka Road and east of Sierra College Boulevard (located in unincorporated Placer County). This study area supports oak woodland habitat as well as an intermittent drainage tributary to Linda Creek. An approximately 620-foot-long stretch of the tributary is located 6 feet from the edge of pavement on the north side of Eureka Road and east of Sierra College Boulevard. The stream curves north and leaves the study area approximately 750 feet from the intersection, across from Hillsborough Drive. The stream then crosses Sierra College Boulevard to the north (outside of this intersection study area). At the time of the reconnaissance survey in September 2006, water was flowing in a portion of the tributary stream. The vegetation within the tributary varies from no vegetation to a dense riparian cover, including species such as Himalayan blackberry, cattail, dallis grass, smartweed, Goodding's black willow, red willow, rice cutgrass (Leersia oryzoides), and sticktight (Bidens frondosa).

The small, intermittent drainage provides suitable habitat for Sanford's arrowhead (Sagittaria sanfordii), which is an herbaceous perennial member of the water-plantain family (Alismataceae) and is on the CNPS List 1B.2 (fairly endangered in California). Its preferred habitat is marshes associated with slow-moving water in sloughs and ditches; however, it is known to occur in concrete-lined channels with only a few inches of soil.

The drainage is expected to support few aquatic and semi-aquatic animal species due to shallow surface water depths, proximity to the road, and limited amount of cover available. The drainage may, however, be frequented by a variety of mammals and birds that occur in adjacent grassland and woodland habitats, such as raccoon (*Procyon lotor*) and Virginia opossum. Species observed directly in or near this intersection study area or detected through vocalizations included black phoebe, American goldfinch (*Carduelis tristis*), house finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*), California quail, Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), western fence lizard, Pacific treefrog, and bullfrog.

The western portion of this study area supports oak woodland habitat. Tree species include live and blue oak with a shrub layer of coffeeberry and coyote brush. The herbaceous layer consists of soft chess, Bermuda grass (*Cynodon dactylon*), common madia (*Madia elegans*), and summer cottonweed (*Epilobium brachycarpum*).

Taller trees located north of, and adjacent to, this study area may provide suitable nesting habitat for protected raptors, including Cooper's hawk and white-tailed kite. Cooper's hawk, a California species of special concern, breeds in most woodland habitats of California but typically nests in riparian woodlands or live oaks near water. White-tailed kite, a California fully protected species, generally forages in undisturbed open grasslands, farmlands, meadows, and emergent wetlands, in areas with a high prey base. Their nests are constructed near the top of a dense oak, willow, or other tall tree located close to foraging areas. While nesting is not expected to occur directly within this study area due to the proximity to the roadway, nesting may occur in taller trees directly north of the site.

Intersection 178: Washington Boulevard and All America

The proposed project includes adding one northbound lane along Washington Boulevard and incorporating a sharper turn onto All America. This intersection study area supports large gravel and paved areas intermixed with disturbed annual grassland, and a small ditch that runs along the eastern boundary of Washington Boulevard.

The annual grassland is located between areas of pavement and gravel and is highly disturbed. The vegetation consists of weedy species such as yellow star-thistle, chicory (*Cichorium intybus*), Bermuda grass, and wild oat.

The disturbed ditch is an ephemeral or intermittent feature paralleling Washington Boulevard. This ditch runs south through this intersection study area and contains garbage and other debris. Although no water was observed in the ditch, the soil was moist. Vegetation within the ditch includes cattails, smartweed, dallis grass, and Goodding's black willow. In the southern portion of this study area, the ditch fades into an upland swale.

Because the site is surrounded by development and contains minimal vegetative cover, there is little habitat for wildlife. While the onsite ditch may convey surface water on a periodic basis, it provides minimal habitat for semi-aquatic species known from the region. Within this study area, wildlife is expected to be limited to species that commonly occur in or frequent urban areas and disturbed habitats, such as western scrub jay, mourning dove, Brewer's blackbird, and American crow. Mammals that often occur in urbanized areas, including raccoon, striped skunk, and opossum, may move through this study area on occasion. Due to the absence of suitable habitat and the highly disturbed nature of this study area, no special-status plant or wildlife known from the region are expected to occur in this study area.

Intersection 179: Cottonwood Drive and Cirby Way

The project proposes to eliminate two existing driveways and create one new driveway on the south side of Cirby Way, across from Cottonwood Drive. The area proposed for the new driveway currently supports pavement, lawn, and small ornamental trees.

Due the presence of primarily landscaped vegetation and impervious surfaces, wildlife resources are expected to be limited within this study area. Species occurring onsite likely consist of those that commonly frequent urban and developed areas, such as western scrub jay, rock dove, mourning dove, Brewer's blackbird, house sparrow, and American crow. No significant biological resources occur within this intersection study area. No special-status plant or wildlife species known from the region are expected to occur in this study area.

4.4.3 REGULATORY SETTING

4.4.3.1 <u>Federal</u>

Federal Endangered Species Act

The federal Endangered Species Act prohibits the "take" of species (including animals and plants) listed by the USFWS as endangered or threatened. The federal Endangered Species Act does not protect species that have been proposed for listing but have not yet been listed. "Take" is defined to

include harassing, harming (including significantly modifying or degrading habitat), pursuing, hunting, shooting, wounding, killing, trapping, capturing, or collecting wildlife species, or any attempt to engage in such conduct. Actions that cause the take of endangered or threatened species can result in civil or criminal penalties.

The federal Endangered Species Act guidelines prohibit any federal action, including funding or the issuance of permits for projects that would jeopardize the existence of a threatened or endangered wildlife or plant species. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) must consult with the USFWS to determine if the issuance of a permit for fill in wetlands would jeopardize any threatened or endangered species that may be affected by a proposed project. In the context of a development project, the federal Endangered Species Act would be triggered if the project would result in the take of a threatened or endangered species or if issuance of a Corps permit or other federal agency action could jeopardize a listed species or adversely affect designated critical habitat.

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act

The Corps and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulate the discharge of dredge and fill material into waters of the United States under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The Corps will typically exert jurisdiction over that portion of the project area that contains waters of the United States and adjacent or isolated wetlands. This jurisdiction includes approximately the bank-to-bank portion of a creek along its entire length up to the ordinary high-water mark, and adjacent wetland areas that will either be directly or indirectly adversely affected by a proposed project.

4.4.3.2 State

California Endangered Species Act

The California Endangered Species Act restricts the take of plant and wildlife species listed by the state as endangered or threatened, as well as candidates for listing. Section 86 of the California Fish and Game Code defines take as "hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill." As an implementation measure, the California Endangered Species Act directs agencies to consult with the CDFG regarding projects or actions that could affect listed species. Through this consultation, the CDFG must determine if jeopardy to listed species would occur, and identify "reasonable and prudent alternatives" to the project consistent with conserving the species. Agencies can approve a project that affects a listed species if the agency determines that there are "overriding considerations"; however, the agencies are prohibited from approving projects that would cause the extinction of a listed species.

Mitigating impacts on state-listed species involves avoidance, minimization, and compensation (listed in order of preference). Unavoidable impacts on state-listed species are typically addressed in a detailed mitigation plan prepared in accordance with CDFG guidelines. The CDFG exercises authority over mitigation projects involving state-listed species, including those resulting from CEQA mitigation requirements.

The CDFG also maintains a list of Special Status Species (CSC) based on limited distribution, declining populations, diminishing habitat, and/or unusual scientific, recreational, or educational value. These species are not afforded the same legal protection as listed species, but may be added to official lists in the future. The designation of CSC is intended by the CDFG as a management tool for

consideration in future land use decisions. Consequently, the CDFG typically requests that CEQA lead agencies give consideration to minimization of impacts to CSC species when approving projects.

California Environmental Quality Act

The Federal Endangered Species Act and California Endangered Species Act protect only those species formally listed as threatened or endangered (or rare in the case of the State list). Section 15380 of the CEQA Guidelines independently defines "endangered" species of plants or animals as those whose survival and reproduction in the wild are in immediate jeopardy and "rare" species as those who are in such low numbers that they could become endangered if their environment worsens. These definitions include species other than those designated by the Endangered Species Acts. On this basis, the California Environmental Quality Act allows for analysis of impacts for other designations including plants designated as "rare" by non-regulatory organizations (e.g., California Native Plant Society) and CDFG's Species of Special Concern. The CDFG has issued guidelines stating that plants on the California Native Plant Society List 1B fulfill the criteria of "rare" under the CEQA Guidelines Section 15380.

A project normally will have a significant effect on the environment if it will substantially affect a rare or endangered species of animal or plant or the habitat of the species. The significance of impacts to a species under CEQA must be based on analyzing actual rarity and threat of extinction despite legal status or lack thereof.

Fish and Game Code Sections 3511 and 3503.5: Raptors

The CDFG derives its authority from the Fish and Game Code of California. Under Chapter 6 of the California Fish and Game Code, the CDFG is responsible for the protection and conservation of the state's fish and wildlife resources. Fish and Game Code Section 3511 describes bird species, primarily raptors, which are "fully protected." Fully protected birds may not be taken or possessed except under a specific permit from CDFG. Section 3503.5 of the code protects all birds of prey and their eggs and nests.

Fish and Game Code Section 1602: Streambed Alteration Agreements

Section 1600 et. seq. of the Fish and Game code defines the responsibilities of the CDFG and the requirements for public and private applicants to obtain an agreement to "divert, obstruct, or change the natural flow or bed, channel, or bank of any existing fish or wildlife resource or from which those resources derive benefit, or will use material from the streambeds designated by the department." The local CDFG warden or unit biologist typically has responsibility for issuing streambed alteration agreements. These agreements usually include specific requirements related to construction techniques and remedial and compensatory measures to mitigate for adverse impacts. The CDFG may also require long-term monitoring as part of an agreement to assess the effectiveness of the proposed mitigation. Additionally, the CDFG has adopted a no-net-loss policy for wetlands.

4.4.3.3 Local

City of Roseville General Plan

The following policies of the City of Roseville General Plan (General Plan) Open Space and Conservation Element are applicable to the proposed project and are cited exactly as written from

this element. Policies relevant to the proposed project from the Vegetation and Wildlife portion of the Open Space and Conservation Element include:

- **OS-VW-1:** Incorporate existing trees into development projects, and where preservation is not feasible, continue to require mitigation for the loss of removed trees. Particular emphasis shall be placed on avoiding the removal of groupings or groves of trees.
- **OS-VW-2:** Preserve and rehabilitate continuous riparian corridors and adjacent habitat along the city's creeks and waterways.
- **OS-VW-3:** Require dedication of the 100-year flood plain or comparable mechanism to protect habitat and wildlife values in perpetuity.
- OS-VW-4: Require preservation of contiguous areas in excess of the 100-year flood plain as merited by special resources or circumstances. Special circumstances may include, but are not limited to, sensitive wildlife or vegetation, wetland habitat, oak woodland areas, grassland connections in association with other habitat areas, slope or topographical considerations, recreation opportunities, and maintenance access requirements.
- **OS-VW-5:** Limit recreation activities within the 100-year flood plain and require additional setback areas for trails and other public recreation uses so that natural resource areas are not adversely impacted.
- **OS-VW-9:** Limit the access of pedestrians and cyclists to vernal pool and wetland areas so that access is compatible with long-term protection of these natural resource areas.
- **OS-VW-10:** Manage public lands with special-status species to encourage propagation of the species and discourage non-indigenous, invasive species.
- **OS-VW-11:** Habitat preservation and mitigation for woodlands, creeks, riparian and seasonal wetland areas should occur within the defined boundaries of the impacting projects where long-term resource viability is feasible and desirable.
- **OS-VW-12:** Consider the use of City property for habitat preservation and mitigation requirements resulting from development proposals when such efforts do not conflict with existing resources, recreational opportunities, or other city goals, policies, or programs.

City of Roseville Tree Preservation Ordinance

The City of Roseville has enacted a Tree Preservation Ordinance (Chapter 19.66 of the City of Roseville Municipal Code) that requires a tree permit prior to conducting any activity done within the protected zone (dripline radius plus one foot) of a protected tree that would adversely affect the health of a protected tree, including but not limited to cutting, grading, irrigating, and trenching. A protected tree defined and covered by this ordinance includes a blue oak, valley oak, or live oak tree having a diameter at breast height (dbh) of six inches or greater. An applicant for a tree permit may be required to provide mitigation for any tree approved for removal. Appropriate mitigation

includes replacement onsite, relocation of trees, implementation of a revegetation plan, and/or payment of in-lieu mitigation fee.

Placer County Tree Ordinance

The Placer County Tree Ordinance applies to any project with the potential to affect protected trees. Protected trees are defined as any native tree species with a dbh of six inches or greater. The Placer County Tree Ordinance acknowledges the County's value for native trees and their preservation. This ordinance prohibits the removal of landmark trees, including stands or groves of native trees, native tree corridors, and other significant native tree habitats. In addition, trees that are designated for preservation and avoidance are not to be damaged, and damage penalties of up to \$50,000 per scar can be assessed by the County.

The removal of trees from riparian areas is also prohibited by the ordinance without prior evaluation and consideration of suitable mitigation measures. This ordinance is applicable to the proposed project because the Tentative Map requires discretionary approval from Placer County. Suitable mitigation may consist of the replacement of removed trees and should be calculated based on an inch for inch standard. The minimum size of replacement trees may be 15-gallon-sized trees, and the combined diameter of these trees should be equal to the diameter of the removed trees. At least 50 percent of the trees used to replace removed trees should be of the same native species, and these trees may be planted in an appropriate area on site or in another area approved by the Placer County Planning Department.

If a project site cannot support the planting of all replacement trees, a fee may be paid to Placer County for the current market value for each tree not planted, and this money will be placed in the County's Tree Preservation Fund.

4.4.4 IMPACTS

4.4.4.1 Method of Analysis

The biological resources evaluation consists of a review of available literature on biological resources (including special-status plants, wildlife, and habitats) in the general vicinity and a reconnaissance-level field survey. As discussed in Section 4.4.2, Environmental Setting, special-status plants and wildlife have been identified from a review of existing reports, as well as a search of the current CNDDB in the vicinity of the City of Roseville. The special status species lists for the Roseville USGS quadrangle and Placer County created by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service were also reviewed. The California Native Plant Society Inventory was checked for special status plants occurring in the area.

The biological setting of the project area has been described in terms of vegetation and plant communities, including wildlife habitat and special-status species. Special-status plant and wildlife species that could occur on within the study areas have been identified.

The intersection study areas have been evaluated with regard to the presence and location of significant biological resources before and after implementation of the proposed roadway improvements. Resources that could be affected as a result of project implementation have been identified, and recommendations for avoidance, reduction of impact, and/or offsite compensation for those resources are provided below.

The impact analysis also assumes implementation of General Plan polices and City Improvement Standards (such as the City of Roseville's Tree Preservation Ordinance) before determining the level of significance. Therefore, City policies and standards are not presented as mitigation.

4.4.4.2 Standards of Significance

As described in CEQA Guidelines (Appendix G), a significant impact would occur if the proposed project would result in the following:

- Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance;
- Disturbance of a significant natural vegetation type, such as riparian or oak woodland;
- Disturbance or degradation of waters or wetlands subject to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers jurisdiction under the federal Clean Water Act;
- Adverse affects on a population or the critical habitat of rare, threatened, or endangered plants or animals;
- Substantial interference with the movement of resident or migratory fish or wildlife; or
- Substantial reduction in habitat for fish, wildlife, or plants.

4.4.4.3 <u>Impacts and Mitigation Measures</u>

IMPACT 4.4-1:	Potential loss of foraging habitat for Swainson's hawk
	and other legally protected raptors (Intersections 69 and 165; Fiddyment Road from Pleasant Grove
	Boulevard to Baseline Road)
APPLICABLE ORDINANCES	California Endangered Species Act and Fish and Game Code
AND STANDARDS:	Sections 3511 and 3503.5
SIGNIFICANCE WITH	Potentially Significant
ORDINANCES AND	
STANDARDS:	
MITIGATION MEASURE:	Mitigation Measure 4.4-1: Consult with CDFG and
	implement appropriate mitigation compensation measures for
	loss of potential foraging habitat
RESIDUAL SIGNIFICANCE:	Less than Significant
	<u> </u>

While the study area does not contain suitable nesting habitat for Swainson's hawk, annual grassland located along the west side of Fiddyment Road may provide marginal-quality foraging habitat for this species during the summer (approximately May through September). The proposed widening of Fiddyment Road from Pleasant Grove Boulevard to Baseline Road, as well as the improvements to Intersections 69 (Fiddyment Road/Pleasant Grove Boulevard) and 165 (Fiddyment Road/Westlake), would require removal and/or disturbance of a limited area of annual grassland habitat that provides foraging habitat for Swainson's hawk, burrowing owl, white-tailed kite, and northern harrier. The grassland areas that would be affected are primarily located adjacent to existing roadways and residential development and provide limited foraging habitat value; however,

CDFG considers the loss of foraging habitat for Swainson's hawk from within 10 miles of an active nest site to be detrimental to the breeding success of this species. The CNDDB (2006) and other pertinent literature identify previous nesting of Swainson's hawk within five miles of the these study areas, with the closest previously documented nest approximately three miles to the north, along Pleasant Grove Creek (CNDDB, 2006). While the loss of a limited amount of grassland along Fiddyment Road is not expected to substantially deplete foraging habitat for Swainson's hawk or other sensitive raptors, it will further reduce the amount of foraging habitat available within the region. This would be considered a **potentially significant** impact.

Implementation of any measures required by CDFG to compensate for the loss of potential foraging habitat would reduce the impact to a **less-than-significant** level.

IMPACT 4.4-2:	Potential disturbance of burrowing owl (Intersections 69
	and 165; Fiddyment Road from Pleasant Grove
	Boulevard to Baseline Road)
APPLICABLE ORDINANCES	Fish and Game Code Sections 3511 and 3503.5
AND STANDARDS:	
SIGNIFICANCE WITH	Potentially Significant
ORDINANCES AND	
STANDARDS:	
MITIGATION MEASURE:	Mitigation Measure 4.4-2: Conduct preconstruction
	burrowing owl surveys and implement measures specified by
	CDFG, where appropriate
RESIDUAL SIGNIFICANCE:	Less than Significant

The proposed widening of Fiddyment Road from Pleasant Grove Boulevard to Baseline Road and Intersections 69 (Fiddyment Road/Pleasant Grove Boulevard) and 165 (Fiddyment Road/Westlake) would require removal and/or disturbance of a limited area of annual grassland habitat that provides potential habitat for burrowing owl. Burrowing owl has been documented by the CNDDB (2006) and other pertinent literature as occurring in the general vicinity of these study areas. This species often occurs where numerous burrowing mammals are present and frequently occupy California ground squirrel burrows (Zeiner et al., 1990b). Burrowing owl also occasionally use manmade structures such as debris piles, culverts, and cement piles for cover. Grassland areas that would be affected within these study areas are primarily located adjacent to existing roadways and residential development, and provide reduced habitat value for this species; however, there is some limited potential for direct disturbance of individuals of burrowing owl that may occur in annual grassland of these study areas. Any direct disturbance of burrowing owl would be considered a **potentially significant** impact.

Preconstruction surveys would reduce this impact to a less-than-significant level.

IMPACT 4.4-3:	Potential disturbance or loss of habitat for vernal pool crustaceans (Intersections 69 and 165; Fiddyment Road from Pleasant Grove Boulevard to Baseline Road)
APPLICABLE ORDINANCES AND STANDARDS:	Federal Endangered Species Act
SIGNIFICANCE WITH ORDINANCES AND STANDARDS:	Potentially Significant
MITIGATION MEASURE:	Mitigation Measure 4.4-3: Avoid disturbance of potential habitat for vernal pool crustaceans or implement mitigation measures in consultation with USFWS
RESIDUAL SIGNIFICANCE:	Less than Significant

The CNDDB documents the occurrence of vernal pool fairy shrimp and vernal pool tadpole shrimp in various locations within the project region and the Roseville area (CNDDB, 2006). While no focused surveys for vernal pool crustaceans were conducted as part of this assessment for the proposed project, potential habitat for these species was observed in association with seasonal wetlands located within these study areas. The proposed widening of Fiddyment Road from Pleasant Grove Boulevard to Baseline Road and Intersections 69 (Fiddyment Road/Pleasant Grove Boulevard) and 165 (Fiddyment Road/Westlake) may result in limited disturbance of seasonal wetlands, and potential habitat for these federally listed species. Any disturbance of seasonal wetlands within these study areas could, therefore, result in a take of vernal pool fairy shrimp and vernal pool tadpole shrimp. Loss of potential habitat for these species or other special-status wildlife species would be considered a **potentially significant** impact.

Disturbance of the seasonal wetland and swale within these study areas should be avoided to the extent feasible. Implementation of measures specified by the 404 permit, secured prior to construction, would mitigate the loss of potential habitat for vernal pool crustaceans and would reduce the impact to a **less-than-significant** level.

IMPACT 4.4-4:	Potential disturbance or loss of habitat for western spadefoot (Intersections 69 and 165; Fiddyment Road
	from Pleasant Grove Boulevard to Baseline Road)
APPLICABLE ORDINANCES	CEQA Guidelines Section 15380; Fish and Game policy for
AND STANDARDS:	Species of Special Concern
SIGNIFICANCE WITH	Potentially Significant
ORDINANCES AND	
STANDARDS:	
MITIGATION MEASURE:	Mitigation Measure 4.4-4: Avoid disturbance of potential
	breeding habitat for western spadefoot or implement
	mitigation measures in consultation with CDFG
RESIDUAL SIGNIFICANCE:	Less than Significant

The CNDDB documents occurrence of western spadefoot in the general project region, with a somewhat recent record (April 2004) reported from northwest of the study area, just south of Pleasant Grove Creek (CNDDB, 2006). The proposed widening of Fiddyment Road from Pleasant Grove Boulevard to Baseline Road and Intersections 69 (Fiddyment Road/Pleasant Grove

Boulevard) and 165 (Fiddyment Road/Westlake) could result in limited disturbance of seasonal wetlands and annual grassland, and potential habitat for western spadefoot, a California species of concern. Any disturbance of seasonal wetlands within these study areas could result in loss or disturbance of potential breeding habitat for this species. Loss of habitat for this species, or disturbance of individual western spadefoots, would be considered a **significant** impact.

Disturbance of the seasonal wetland and swale within these study areas should be avoided to the extent feasible. Implementation of measures specified by CDFG for avoiding direct disturbance of individuals of this species and for mitigating the loss of potential habitat would reduce the impact to a **less-than-significant** level.

IMPACT 4.4-5:	Potential disturbance of nesting raptors (Intersections 15
	and 105)
APPLICABLE ORDINANCES	Fish and Game Code Sections 3511 and 3503.5
AND STANDARDS:	
SIGNIFICANCE WITH	Potentially Significant
ORDINANCES AND	
STANDARDS:	
MITIGATION MEASURE:	Mitigation Measure 4.4-5: Construct outside of nesting
	season or conduct preconstruction raptor nesting surveys
RESIDUAL SIGNIFICANCE:	Less than Significant

The proposed widening of Intersection 105 (Eureka Road/Sierra College Boulevard) may disturb the breeding/nesting lifestages of sensitive raptors, including white-tailed kite and Cooper's hawk, depending on timing of proposed construction activities. Potential nesting habitat for these species occurs just north of, and adjacent to, these study areas. Nesting of other raptors known from the region, including red-tailed hawk, red-shouldered hawk, and great horned owl, could also be adversely affected if construction along Intersections 15 (Cirby Way/Orlando Avenue) and 105 takes place during the identified breeding/nesting seasons (approximately March 1 through August 31). Take of any active raptor nest is prohibited under California Fish and Game Code Section 3503.5. Project activities within or adjacent to these study areas, including tree removal or branch trimming, has the potential disturb raptor nesting activity and would be considered a **potentially significant** impact.

Project activities should be avoided during the typical raptor breeding season, to the extent feasible. If construction must take place during the typical nesting season, preconstruction surveys should be conducted. Implementation of preconstruction raptor surveys and appropriate avoidance measures would reduce impacts to a **less-than-significant** level.

IMPACT 4.4-6:	Loss of seasonal wetlands and/or creek channels
	(Intersections 69, 105, 165, and 178; Fiddyment Road
	from Pleasant Grove Blvd to Baseline Road)
APPLICABLE ORDINANCES	Section 404 of the Clean Water Act
AND STANDARDS:	
SIGNIFICANCE WITH	Potentially Significant
ORDINANCES AND	
STANDARDS:	
MITIGATION MEASURE:	Mitigation Measure 4.4-6: Comply with agency permitting
	requirements and provide for no net loss of wetlands
RESIDUAL SIGNIFICANCE:	Less than Significant
	- Company of the Comp

Since only 12 feet of disturbance from the existing edge of pavement is planned for the west side of Orlando Avenue at Intersection 15, this improvement would affect upland habitat only and not affect the stream channel of the nearby tributary to Cirby Creek. However, some of the proposed improvements could result in the fill of seasonal wetland areas and/or creeks, including potential impacts to a tributary to Linda Creek at Intersection 105 (Eureka Road/Sierra College Boulevard); potential impacts to seasonal wetlands and Curry Creek during the widening of Fiddyment Road from Pleasant Grove Boulevard to Baseline Road, or Intersections 69 (Fiddyment Road/Pleasant Grove Boulevard) and 165 (Fiddyment Road/Westlake); and potential impacts to a ditch at Intersection 178 (Washington Boulevard/All America). Impacts from loss of seasonal wetlands and/or creek channels would be considered a **potentially significant** impact.

The Corps and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulate the discharge of dredge and fill material into the waters of the United States under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. When site-specific designs are available for the roadway and intersection improvements, project-level analysis would require a wetland delineation submitted to the Corps for verification. The City would be required to obtain a Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit from the Corps prior to any construction activity. Compliance with the Corps requirements for no-net-loss of wetlands would ensure that the impact would be reduced to a **less-than-significant** level.

A wetland delineation report, Wetland Delineation for Baseline 430 (ECORP 2003), has already been prepared and verified for an area encompassing the widening of Fiddyment Road from Pleasant Grove Blvd to Baseline Road and the Intersection 165 (Fiddyment Road/Westlake) improvement area. This verification is valid for five years; therefore, the Fiddyment Road widening and Intersection 165 improvements would not require a new delineation before that time.

IMPACT 4.4-7:	Potential impacts to Sandford's arrowhead and rose mallow (Intersections 105, 69, 165; Fiddyment Road from Pleasant Grove Boulevard to Baseline Road)
APPLICABLE ORDINANCES AND STANDARDS:	CEQA Guidelines Section 15380; CDFG policy for California Native Plant Society List 1B species
SIGNIFICANCE WITH ORDINANCES AND STANDARDS:	Potentially Significant
MITIGATION MEASURE:	Mitigation Measure 4.4-7: Conduct preconstruction rare plant surveys; if required, develop and implement a mitigation plan approved by the CDFG and/or USFWS
RESIDUAL SIGNIFICANCE:	Less than Significant

Habitat for Sanford's arrowhead (*Sagittaria sanfordii*) occurs in Intersections 105 (Eureka Road/Sierra College Boulevard), 69 (Fiddyment Road/Pleasant Grove Boulevard), Intersection 165 (Fiddyment Road/Westlake), and along Fiddyment Road from Pleasant Grove Boulevard to Baseline Road. Marginal habitat for rose mallow (*Hibiscus lasiocarpus*) occurred in Intersections 69 (Fiddyment Road/Pleasant Grove Boulevard) and Intersection 165 (Fiddyment Road/Westlake) and along Fiddyment Road. Sanford's arrowhead and rose mallow do not have any state or federal status but are on the CNPS List 1B.1 and List 2, respectively. Impacts to Sandford's arrowhead and rose mallow would be considered a **potentially significant** impact.

When site-specific designs are available, Mitigation Measure 4.4-7 would ensure that rare plant surveys are conducted prior to construction, which would reduce impacts to Sanford's arrowhead and rose mallow to **less-than-significant** levels.

IMPACT 4.4-8:	Impacts to protected trees (Intersections 15 and 105)
APPLICABLE ORDINANCES	City of Roseville Tree Preservation Ordinance and Placer
AND STANDARDS:	County Tree Ordinance
SIGNIFICANCE WITH	Less than Significant
ORDINANCES AND	
STANDARDS:	
MITIGATION MEASURE:	None Required
DECIDITAL CLONIELCANICE	T 1 0' 'C'
RESIDUAL SIGNIFICANCE:	Less than Significant

The City of Roseville and Placer County define a protected tree as a native oak equal to or greater than six inches in dbh measured as a total of a single trunk or multiple trunks. Protected native oak trees were observed at Intersection 15 (Cirby Way/Orlando Avenue) and Intersection 105 (Eureka Road/Sierra College Blvd) study areas. The area of disturbance for Intersection 105 falls within unincorporated Placer County. The *Environmental Questionnaire* prepared by Placer County for the Intersection 105 widening estimates that 31 oak trees with 5 inches or larger diameter would be removed at this intersection. Since site-specific designs are not available for the Intersection 15 widening, the total number of trees that may be affected at this intersection has not been determined. Prior to construction in these intersection improvement areas, a qualified arborist will conduct a tree survey and prepare an arborist report to identify all protected trees within the area of impact.

The City would adhere to the City's and County's Tree Ordinances, which would be a condition of approval for the proposed project. In accordance with the Tree Ordinances, a Tree Permit application would be submitted to the City and County for review and approval for potential impacts to any native oak tree equal to or greater than six inches dbh. Measures to prevent the damage to native oak trees during construction (including protective fencing) would be implemented as detailed in the Ordinance's Standard Policies and Procedures for Approved Work. Encroachments or damage to native oak trees that have not been authorized by a tree permit would be prohibited. With adherence to the City's and County's Tree Ordinances, impacts to protected trees as a result of the proposed project's intersection improvements would be **less than significant**.

4.4.5 MITIGATION MEASURES

Mitigation Measure 4.4-1: Consult with CDFG and implement appropriate mitigation compensation measures for loss of potential foraging habitat

This Mitigation Measure applies to Impact 4.4-1.

Prior to project initiation, the CDFG shall be contacted to determine if mitigation for the loss of annual grassland and potential foraging habitat for Swainson's hawk will be required. Implementation of any measures required by CDFG to compensate for the loss of potential foraging habitat will reduce the impact to a less-than-significant level.

Mitigation Measure 4.4-2: Conduct preconstruction burrowing owl surveys and implement measures specified by CDFG, where appropriate

This Mitigation Measure applies to Impact 4.4-2.

To ensure that direct disturbance of burrowing owls in annual grassland of the study area is avoided, a preconstruction survey will be conducted to determine presence/absence of the species. The survey will be conducted by a qualified biologist within 30 days of proposed ground-disturbing activities. Results of the survey will be submitted to the County and the CDFG. If burrowing owls are found onsite or evidence of their occurrence is observed during the survey, the CDFG will be immediately contacted to determine appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures. Implementation of preconstruction survey and measures specified by CDFG, as necessary, will reduce the impact to a less-than-significant level.

Mitigation Measure 4.4-3: Avoid disturbance of potential habitat for vernal pool crustaceans or implement mitigation measures in consultation with USFWS

This Mitigation Measure applies to Impact 4.4-3.

To avoid potential take of federally listed species, including vernal pool tadpole shrimp and vernal pool fairy shrimp, disturbance of the seasonal wetland and swale within the study area will be avoided to the extent feasible. Impacts to federally listed species or their habitats would likely require a permit from the USFWS. In the event that potential habitat within the study area cannot be avoided, the USFWS will be contacted to determine survey responsibilities (to determine presence/absence of a species) and pertinent permitting and mitigation requirements, as necessary. Implementation of measures specified by the 404 permit, secured prior to construction, would mitigate the loss of potential habitat for vernal pool crustaceans and will reduce the impact to a less-than-significant level.

Mitigation Measure 4.4-4: Avoid disturbance of potential habitat for western spadefoot, or implement mitigation measures in consultation with CDFG

This Mitigation Measure applies to Impact 4.4-4.

To avoid potential loss of breeding habitat for western spadefoot, disturbance of the seasonal wetland and swale within the study area will be avoided to the extent feasible. CDFG will be contacted prior to project implementation to determine appropriate survey measures (to determine species presence/absence) and/or mitigation requirements for loss of habitat for western spadefoot. Implementation of measures in consultation with CDFG for mitigating the loss of potential habitat will reduce the impact to a less-than-significant level.

Mitigation Measure 4.4-5: Construct outside of nesting season or conduct pre-construction raptor nesting surveys

This Mitigation Measure applies to Impact 4.4-5.

To avoid disturbance of raptor breeding and nesting activity, including nesting of sensitive raptors, project activities will be avoided during the typical raptor breeding season of March through August, to the extent feasible. If construction must take place during the typical nesting season, preconstruction surveys will be conducted by a qualified biologist no more than 30 days prior to

initiation of proposed development activities. Surveys will be conducted to determine if active nesting is occurring on or directly adjacent to the study area. Survey results will then be submitted to the CDFG. If active nests are found on or immediately adjacent to the site, consultation will be initiated with CDFG to determine appropriate avoidance measures. If no nesting is found to occur, necessary tree removal and other project activities could then proceed. Implementation of preconstruction raptor surveys and appropriate avoidance measures will reduce impacts to a less-than-significant level.

Mitigation Measure 4.4-6: Comply with agency permitting requirements and provide for no net loss of wetlands

This Mitigation Measure applies to Impact 4.4-6.

The City shall comply with all applicable Corps, USFWS, CDFG, and Regional Water Quality Control Board permitting and mitigation requirements for intersection widening and construction. The City shall meet the agencies' no net loss of wetlands policy through one of the following measures:

- Avoid impacts through project design.
- Compensate for impacts by acquiring (through fee title or credits in an approved mitigation bank) replacement habitat.

When site-specific designs are available for the roadway and intersection improvements, project-level analysis would require a wetland delineation submitted to the Corps for verification. The City would be required to obtain a Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit from the Corps prior to any construction activity.

A wetland delineation report, Wetland Delineation for Baseline 430 (ECORP 2003), has already been prepared and verified for an area encompassing the widening of Fiddyment Road from Pleasant Grove Blvd to Baseline Road and the Intersection 165 (Fiddyment Road/Westlake) improvement area. This verification is valid for five years; therefore, the Fiddyment Road widening and Intersection 165 improvements would not require a new delineation before that time.

Mitigation Measure 4.4-7: Conduct preconstruction rare plant surveys

This Mitigation Measure applies to Impact 4.4-7.

To avoid impacts to potentially occurring special-status plant species, the City shall conduct preconstruction floristic rare plant surveys along Intersections 105, 69, and 165 and along the west side of Fiddyment Road from Pleasant Grove Boulevard to Baseline Road. Two special-status plants (Sanford's arrowhead and rose mallow) have the potential to occur within these improvement areas. Floristic surveys shall be conducted (according to agency guidelines) within in the project sites to determine presence or absence of special-status plant species. Should any individual special status plant species be located, the applicant shall retain a qualified botanist to develop and implement a mitigation plan; appropriate measures could include transplanting for species that are not federally or state listed as threatened or endangered (such as Sanford's arrowhead and rose mallow, which are on CNPS List 1B.2 and List 2, respectively). The CDFG would review and approve the mitigation plan, except if the plan or portion of the plan addresses federally listed species. In that case, the mitigation plan would be reviewed by the USFWS. Appropriate measures may include transplanting for species that are not federally or state listed as threatened or endangered (such as Sanford's arrowhead and rose mallow).